

DPW Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 3, 2014
7pm, Community Room, Police Station

A meeting of the DPW Commissioners was held on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 in the Community Room at the Police Station at 7pm; Chairman Sena was not in attendance.

7:00 Approval Items

Board of Commission Minutes 8/20/14 Approval – postponed until a subsequent meeting as there were insufficient voting members who were in attendance on 8/20/14.

Approval of Sale of Cemetery Lots - none

7:05 Open Session

Open for Public Discussion with the Commissioners:

T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said in the back of Carlson's Quarry, the water looks murky sometimes, he has noticed large patches (5 or 6' in diameter) of pond weed. He said he doesn't recall seeing this in the past. He mentioned the Fall Town Meeting, and the Tax Title Properties, 59 High Street specifically. He said the plowing of private roads was mentioned at the Board of Selectmen meeting last night as well. T. Arsenian asked if the Commissioners were aware of the report being given at Town Meeting on plowing private roads. Commissioner Gardner said a town meeting in 1972 approved the maintenance of private roads, and it was misinterpreted that it included plowing as well. He said the town has received advice from Kopelman & Paige on this.

F. Tarr, 156 Main Street, was involved when the plowing was approved. He said they received legal advice at that time indicating it was alright because it was addressing public safety. He said he is concerned about the over-hanging, dead trees on the way to the transfer station. Director Parisi said he did send a letter to the property owners; he hasn't heard back yet.

D. Greel said he would like to be involved regarding the issue of plowing of private roads. He said many of the private roads that are being plowed need to be plowed for safety reasons (fire hydrants, etc.). Commissioner Reed said that the legal advice that the town received was that the owners of the private roads are responsible for the plowing/clearing of the road. An emergency vehicle can only get as far as they can get. E. Battistelli said Chairperson Wilkinson is presenting a report at Town Meeting explaining the issue.

7:45 New Business

FY 15 Water & Sewer Indirect Cost and Debt Service Review: J. Parisi distributed a spreadsheet detailing the requested information. The Water and Sewer enterprises for a 10 year period

were detailed. The rates were already approved at a prior meeting. The Commissioners will review this information and discuss at a subsequent meeting. There may be an opportunity here to decrease some costs. The indirect costs were reviewed and methods for reducing these costs were discussed. It was mentioned that individual departments have no control over these costs that are allocated to each department.

Cell Tower revenue Reserve Fund for Water Enterprise: there are two locations with cell equipment, DPW facility on a pole and the water tower. If the DPW received this revenue, it could lower the water rates. J. Parisi distributed a document detailing the lease amounts for both 2013 and 2014, they were T-Mobile, Sprint, AT&T, and Verizon; the four total approximately \$163,693 for 2014. T. Arsenian said he agrees with the funds going to DPW.

Building Study Assessment: The Board of Selectmen voted to approve the contract at last night's meeting. Tim Olson said the DPW should meet with the consultant to review all town buildings. Commissioner Reed said the DPW has the funds to study the facilities (assessments) because they really couldn't wait for this assessment. Commissioner Gardner questioned if this assessment is going to address the issues that the DPW needs. The CPC had previously asked for all capital request projections for the next five years; this was difficult because the study hadn't been completed. E. Battistelli the five year projections excluded any building items. Commissioner Reed said the Building Study Assessment study isn't as in depth as the DPW needs. The town is conducting a "use study"; the DPW is conducting a "condition study". The Treasurer is asking why the DPW hasn't spent the funds that were appropriated.

8:15 Ongoing Business

Transfer Station Traffic Flow and Single Stream Recycling: Sharon Kishida, Recycling Coordinator for the District (39 Communities), was present. She said single stream is a single container that is a mix of everything. Some other communities are doing this. She said for curbside it's efficient. It is also happening at Transfer stations, but it's definitely happening at the curb. Glass is a problem at the Transfer Station, it is piling up. S. Kishida said she spoke to Mel about disposing of the glass; there is one vendor, Strategic Materials out of Franklin, Mass. They have materials coming from dual stream (co-mingled metal and plastic), and it gets sorted. She said there are more glass bottles during the summer months; Rockport actually has triple stream. It is volume decision, glass is the toughest to get rid of, and it weighs the most. S. Kishida recommended visiting Integrated Paper Recyclers (IPR). They would have to pay to take it to Strategic Materials. S. Kishida's advice, based on the IPR contract, is to look at exercising the 30 day cancellation clause, trash is outside of 30(b), the town can negotiate freely. IPR's equipment has been there for a long time. She recommended talking to Hiltz, JRM and Waste Management. S. Kishida said contamination is a huge problem with glass, plastic, hoses, etc. There are so many efficiencies with single stream and there is less traffic at the Transfer Station as well. Commissioner Reed said he is still worried about safety issues at the transfer station; the traffic flow needs to be looked at. S. Kishida recommended a visit to Middleton because they have a nice design. She had some information on some towns on the Cape with comparative detail on tonnage, equipment, etc. Z. Seppala, said the Transfer Station is a great place to share petitions and other town business. F. Tarr said the Transfer Station should be a social place. Commissioner Gardner said we've talked about a redesign for some time now; it will take some funding. T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said it is sensible to reconfigure for

efficiency and public safety. The costs will be recovered out of the dump fees. W. Wagner said he understands the efficiency of single stream but is it cost-effective. S. Kishida said anything removed from the trash trailer reduces the town's costs; if the town pays for additional tonnage; that will be a cost increase. J. Parisi said he will start making calls to the various vendors. Commissioner Reed recommended putting this on the agenda two meetings from now to review what data J. Parisi has gathered. J. Greel said he recommends the transfer station be open on both weekend days. J. Parisi questioned hauling our own trailers; D. Greel said he thinks this could be very cost effective.

Town Meeting Articles: E. Battistelli informed the DPW that the Board of Selectmen didn't take a position on whether or not to support the fluoride petition article. At the meeting with S. Wedmore, it was decided that the DPW was going to look into the costs of offering alternative water sources for the residents. Commissioner Gardner said the town can't provide a water supply without any fluoride; we can only remove the supplementing of fluoride. E. Battistelli inquired if the DPW can provide basic information on the fluoride that is currently being added to the water if the question comes up at Town Meeting. J. Parisi will check with Chris Martin about a specification sheet. E. Battistelli stated it is not accurate for people who think that the town has been putting fluoride in the water secretly. She said there was a vote, given it was some time ago, but there was a vote. She said she doesn't think it's a bad thing that the issue is being discussed again.

8:30 Ongoing Capital Projects

Sediment Transport Study: T. Olson, Asst. DPW Director, said he received comments and forwarded them on to Applied Coastal; the Town Administrator and Selectperson Lucas sent some comments as well.

Bedrock Wells Project: There were four bidders last week, pricing was competitive and close together, Kinsmen Corporation, \$283,000. We now have a successful bid to move forward, there is an easement issue with one property.

Pavement Program Update: T. Olson had a spreadsheet detailing the pavement program. The report details what was accomplished for this year. We need to look at next year with Chapter 90 funds and what funds are available through the town budget. Commissioner Gardner asked if Gott Street is being repaired this year and asked what work can reasonably be accomplished before this winter. J. Parisi said Gott Street should be done and maybe we should postpone Marshall. D. Greel said if we did a skim coat on a lot of roads, we could get another ten years out of them. J. Parisi said the pavement management plan is a recommendation; we can plan differently than the recommendations. Let's look over the next several months about putting this together for a spring/summer plan. Commissioner Reed said he would like to see Railroad Avenue taken care of this fall. It was stated that Gott Street needs a sidewalk and an overlay. Commissioner Reed said he'd like the DPW to come back with a recommendation on spending the \$239,000.

Water Needs Assessment: The DPW Commissioners are still reviewing the draft of the Water Needs Assessment and will provide comments to the Director to be forwarded to the Consultant for consideration.

9:25 Other Issues of Discussion: CAT loader and a front end loader failed inspection; they are no longer available to use. The Town Administrator is looking for a lease-to-purchase a cat loader.

Commissioner Reed moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, Vote: 2-0.

Tickler List:

Cell Tower Lease funds

Tracking special projects by hours

Energy Efficiency

Sewer Use Regulations

Transfer Station Redesign

DPW facility

Water & Sewer Rates (information on long term debt and indirect expense detail)

Sediment Transport Study

Water Fluoridation

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 9/24/14, Police Station